Waiting list of LPG connections in Arunachal Pradesh

2989. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of persons on the waiting list for LPG connections in Arunachal Pradesh and in Delhi; and

(b) what steps Government are taken to clear the backlog?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) As on 1-4-1991, there were about 0.06 lakh and 5.54 lakh persons on the waiting list in Arunachal Pradesh and Delhi, respectively.

(b) Efforts are constantly on to give LPG connections to as many applicants as early as possible.

Opening of new LPG agencies/Petrol Pumps

2990. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a great demand to open new LPG agencies and Petrol Pumps in different areas of the country;

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking in this regard; and

(c) the details of locations that have been identified for opening of new LPG Agencies and Petrol Pumps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) New LPG Distributorships and Petrol/Diesel Retail Outlets are opened in different places as per Marketing Plans, availabilty of products, etc.

Supply of kerosene to Karnataka

2991. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of allocation of kerosene to different State, State wise;

(b) what are the norms for its allocation:

(c) what are the details of demand and supply and kerosene to Karnataka; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the supply thereof to that State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (d) Kerosene allocations to States/Union Territories are made on an historical basis subject to availability of the product. Steps are being continuously taken to increase the availability of kerosene through incrtased production and through imports. The details of thte allcation of kerosene to different States/UTs are given in the Anntxure. [*See* Appendix CLXI, Annexure No. 70].

Passengers travelling on roofs of the trains

2992. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are more passengers travelling on rooftops of the trains between Delhi, Jaipur, Agra, Lucknow and Patna than passengers travelling inside the coaches; and

(b) what remedial action Government are taking to curb the crowded and risky travelling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Cases of some persons travelling on the roof of the trains have come to notice.

(b) Measures to prevent and discourage travelling on roofs of the trains include exhibition of notices and posters at station premises, announcements through public address system at important Railway stations highlighting the dangers of roof travelling, checks by TTEs and prosecution by RPF/GRP of offenders detected during raids/checks. Capacity is also augmented to the extent possible by providing additional coaches or running additional trains when there is extra demand for accommodation on trains during festivals etc.

Ex-gratia pension scheme to retired railwaymen

2993. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received requests from various Retired Railwaymen's organisations for extending Ex-gratia pension scheme to those surviving retirees who had retired under Provident Fund scheme prior to introduction of pension scheme; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the IVth Pay Commission had recommended grant of such pension to retirees and dependents of deceased P.F. retirees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Requests from various Retired Railwaymen's Organisations have been received for payment of ex-gratia to those employees who retired under the Contributory Provident Fund Scheme prior to 31.3.85 with basic pay upto Rs. 500/- per month. Those persons who had retired prior to introduction of the Pension Scheme are already covered under the Scheme of ex-gratia pension introduced in 1967.

(b) The IVth Pay Commission had recommended grant of ex-gratia payment at the rate of Rs. 300/- per month to such employees as had retired under the Contributory Provident Fund Scheme prior to 31.3.85 with pay upto Rs. 500/- per month. The Commission had also recommended grant of ex-gratia payment at the rate of Rs. 150/- p.m. to widows and dependent children of deceased Contributory Provident Fund beneficiaries.

Functions, services of the Container Corporation of India Ltd.

2994. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the objectives, functions, services of the Container Corporation of India Ltd. a Government Enterprise; and

(b) whether Container Corporation of India Ltd. assigned, appointed agents in Delhi and adjoining areas for booking and delivery of domestic/International cargo container, if so, the names and addresses of such agents, entitlement of commission, facilities and incentives offered to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Container Corporation of India (CONCOR) has been set up to provide multimodal logistics support for the country's international and inernal trade and commerce. It aims to provide composite infrastructural services in a competitive environment at least cost to the society by creating a network of modern terminal facilities for container handling, cargo aggregation and distribution.

(b) No, Sir.

New schemes and projects of Tamil Nadu

2995. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the schemes and projects assured by his predecessor in the National Front Government when he visited Tamil Nadu during that period; and